



MARRS Management Council

MEETING SUMMARY

May 27, 2026

CO-CHAIRS

Worth Hunsinger, Johnson County Emergency Department of Emergency Services
Major Ronald Legg, Kansas City Police Department

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

- Ronald Legg opened the meeting. Eric Winebrenner performed a roll call.

2. Approval of the February 25, 2026, meeting summary

- *Chris Skinrood moved to approve the February 25, 2026, meeting summary. Scott Boden seconded this. The motion was approved with no opposition.*

3. MARRS Project Update – TUSA Consulting

- Negotiation meetings with TUSA Consulting and Motorola are scheduled for the week of June 8th, involving special projects and sales teams, and based on priorities set in recent meetings with regional stakeholders.
- June 18th is the anticipated preliminary pricing meeting.

4. FIFA World Cup 2026™ Kansas City

- The Communications Plan is complete.
- Meetings were held with the dispatch centers to go over the plan, complexity, regional resources, and to advise centers to report any technical concerns.
- The team will use the three separate radio systems covering our area for load balancing. The systems are primary, alternative, and contingency. We can move operations from one system to another for balance during loading.
- Nathan Dougan inquired if the regional resources/assets that are already accounted for in the plan on other agency sites will be disabled for loading?

- Steve Hoskins clarified that regional channels will be disabled on smaller sites (e.g., Platte County, Independence) to prevent overload, and operations will be centralized on the Kansas City system, mirroring procedures used during Super Bowl parades.
- The team will be collaborating very closely with the technical staff, especially in the first two weeks. There is a position at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC), for a COMC and we plan to have a radio operator monitoring there. We are seeking a qualified COML for monitoring.
- A formal mutual aid request will be made to agencies to release staff for FIFA World Cup 2026™ Kansas City duties.
- Chris Myers from the DHS reported that on May 19th a Communications Tabletop Exercise (TTX) was held in Lenexa. His team will send the summary to Steve Hoskins and Mark Whelan.

5. 2026 COMC Applicant Approvals

- Steve Hoskins reported that during the last Technical Users Committee Meeting he motioned for tentative approval from the committee for the four applicants so they can serve during FIFA World Cup 2026™ Kansas City with final approval to follow.
- We must have a COMC at the RCC for every fan fest day and match day. On match days they run from 6:00 AM through 2:00 AM the next morning. We will split into two shifts.
- The four perspectives COMCs discussed were Scott Stephenson (KCPD), Brandon Williams (KCFD), John Harris (Kansas side), and Ted Fedor (retired Shawnee firefighter).
- Brandon and Scott are already assigned COMC roles through their agencies and will be working in that capacity during FIFA World Cup 2026™ Kansas City, but not at the RCC.
- *Nathan Dougan motioned to approve the applicants. Scott Boden second. The motion passed without opposition.*

6. Request for Hospital Common Talk Group

- Worth Hunsinger reported MARCER has Biocom radios in all the emergency rooms for ambulance communications, and they have requested to add a hospital common talkgroup.
- Eric Winebrenner and Chris Skinrood reported there was a discussion in the last Technical Users Committee meeting about this request that included a hospital's eligibility, policy implications, earlier denials to hospitals and others that were made due to their status as private non-public safety entities, as well as concerns about system capacity.
- Nathan Dougan inquired as to how one hospital ER is going to notify another ER to change the radio and get on the hospital talkgroup? The Management

Council determined that the notification would have to take place by phone first. They can only monitor one talkgroup at a time.

- Chris Skinrood reminded the Council that if a hospital forgets to change the radio back to the ambulance talkgroup and leaves it on the hospital talkgroup, then when an ambulance is trying to call in, they are not going to get the call.
- Marie Beauchamp reminded the Council about the hospitals currently have the EM online system. Worth Hunsinger reported they also have access to the PSDSP talkgroup and can talk to the Johnson County ECC.

7. MARRS Radio Specifications and Smart Connect Requirements

- Eric Winebrenner reported there was a discussion about Smart Connect and how it is being used in Kansas City as a backup for radio failure leading to an inquiry about if Smart Connect needs to be included in the MARRS radio requirements?
- Eric Winebrenner shared a copy of the most recent requirements, which include P25 Phase 2, multi-key, AES, and OTAR, noting that these were established in 2016 and may be outdated given technological advancements.
- During the Technical Users Committee there was a motion to present this to the Council for consideration of forming a committee to re-evaluate and update public safety radio requirements and their capabilities, focusing on interoperability and future purchasing.
- Ron Legg said it may be best to address post FIFA World Cup 2026™ Kansas City.
- Nathan Dougan stated that since Kansas City has purchased the Smart Connect server, they learned there is a 10-megabyte limit. Currently they are not allowing Kansas jurisdictions to use the Smart Connect feature until Motorola increases the 10-megabyte interconnect interzone connection.
- Chris Skinrood stated it is time to revisit the requirements and see if there are other components to consider in the future.
- Dean Hart with TUSA stated they will take that into consideration as well.
- Ron Legg stated the topic will be held until the next Council meeting in August.

8. Vendors Programming Talkgroups without MOU in Place

- The City of Independence reported that there are vendors/radio shops programming agency talkgroups into radios without proper MOUs.
- They have requested a letter be distributed to the vendors and shops advising the need to have the proper documentation in place prior to any programming.

- Eric Winebrenner will draft the letter for approval. Once the Council approves the letter, he will send it to the system owners and advise them to distribute it to the vendors/radio shops.
- *Ron Legg made a motion to approve. Chris Skinrood second. The motion passed without opposition.*

9. Approval of Homeland Security Investigations (KCMO Host Agency)

- Jeff Brame reported that Homeland Security has 110 radios they want to put on MARRS. It is estimated that 170 radios will eventually be added on MARRS. The paperwork is signed by the city.
- Chris Skinrood inquired if they will pay subscriber fees or have any requests for help? Jeff Brame answered no, they are not, they have their own system, and this is only for helping KCPD and others in the area.
- Chris Skinrood inquired if this will only go across Site 1? Jeff answered yes.
- Eric Winebrenner noted their Federal Law Enforcement. The Council's approval is needed to move forward.
- *Scott Boden made a motion to approve. Worth Hunsinger second. The motion passed without opposition.*

10. Approval of BNSF Railway Police (KCMO Host Agency)

- Jeff Brame reported that BNSF has signed a MARRS agreement, and the city has signed as well. It is estimated at 6 radios. The Council's approval is needed to move forward.
- *Chris Skinrood made a motion to approve. Scott Boden second. The motion passed without opposition.*

11. System Owners Update

- Cass County – Marie Beauchamp – MOSWIN completed their install at the Harrisonville Quarry Site, all three sites are up and running for FIFA World Cup 2026™ Kansas City.
- Excelsior Springs – Larry Tarrant – Not present.
- Independence – Doug Christianson – Console installations and upgrades start next week. We are programming radios to get them added.
- Johnson County, KS – Worth Hunsinger – No Updates.
- Johnson County, MO – Steve Ewing – No Updates.
- Kansas City Missouri – Scott Stephenson – new software upgrades from Motorola are now complete for both Zone 3 and 4.
- Lee's Summit – Chief Snider – New tower installed next to PD location. A building previously went up nearby that had interfered with the Southwest coverage, but that has been resolved. Our 911 dispatch center is up and running.

- Platte County – Tony Avery – Weve completed our console installations at our primary and backup locations and have added all the MOSWIN talkgroups into our field radios.
- Wyandotte County – Darrell Banner – No updates.
- Riverside – Chris Skinrood – No updates.

12. Closed Session

The Council may go into closed session for any reason pursuant to 610.02 RSMo.

- Ron Legg inquired if there were any items needed for a closed session? None reported.

13. Adjournment

- *Scott Boden motioned to adjourn. Chris Skinrood second. The motion passed without opposition.*

NEXT/UPCOMING MEETING(S)

August 26, 2026

December 16, 2026